

Appl. No. : 10/731,989
Filed : December 9, 2003

In response to the Examiner's requirement for election of invention, which is the only point raised in the Office Action, the Applicant provisionally elects **Group I** (disclosed in **Claims 1-26**) for consideration by the Examiner, without traversal.

Since the Applicant has responded to the requirement for election of invention and has made the required election, the Applicant submits that the application is now in order for action on the merits. If the Examiner finds any impediment to the prompt allowance of the claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: December 23, 2004

By:



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